

Richard 'Dick' Pilgrim



Richard "Dick" Dale Pilgrim, 88, of Nevada and formerly of Grinnell, died Monday, May 2, 2016, at the Story County Medical Center in Nevada.

Visitation will be from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, May 6, at Rasmusson-Bacon Funeral Home in Nevada. Memorial services will be 10 a.m. Saturday, May 7, at Central Presbyterian Church in Nevada, with Pastor Caleb Suydam officiating. Inurnment will be at 2:30 p.m. at Hazelwood Cemetery in Grinnell.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Central Presbyterian Church or Story County 4-H Endowment Foundation.

Rasmusson-Bacon Funeral Home in Nevada is handling arrangements. www.rasmussonfh.com.

Dick was born April 24, 1928, in Grinnell to C. Morey and Nellie Cooper Pilgrim. He attended a one-room school through eighth grade and graduated from Grinnell High School in 1945. Dick served in the United States Navy, stationed in Doane College, Crete, Neb., Notre Dame and Washington, D.C. Following military service, Dick attended Iowa State College and graduated with a degree in farm operations. Dick met his future wife, Shirley Hesson, at Iowa State. They were married Jan. 2, 1949, and raised three children.

Dick was an active farmer who served on numerous boards, including Colo Cooperative Board, Nevada School Board, Story County Farm Bureau Board, and Habitat for Humanity. He was a member of the American Legion, and an elder at the Central Presbyterian Church, having served many years on the Building and Grounds Committee at CPC. He shared his wife's passion for 4-H, having been a member, leader and parent.

Dick and Shirley visited all 50 states and more than 15 countries. He was an avid reader, enjoyed men's coffee and liked sharing military stories and farming experiences.

He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Shirley; his daughter, Lynne of North Carolina; his son, Jeff of Sioux City; and his daughter Melanie of Nevada; several grandchildren and great grandchildren; his brother, James of Clinton; and many special nieces and nephews.

Dick was preceded in death by his parents and his sisters Marilyn and Fran.

GH-R 5-5-2016